

# JEWISH OBSERVER

AND

## MIDDLE EAST REVIEW

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# Belgrade Shirks The Issue: A Case For Commitment

—PAGE 2





## COMMENT

### "...PART OF THE MIDDLE EAST WORLD?"

"Yet surely those Israelis are right who plan on the assumption that if Israel is ever to settle down as a nation or a state it must be as part of the Middle East world."

With these words, the Special Correspondent of *The Times* concluded a penetratingly thoughtful series of articles on his Middle East impressions. Rightly, he saw Israel to be in need of a new ideal and, like so many in the recent election campaign in Israel, he concluded that this new ideal had to be sought in a new relationship with the Arab world. And here *The Times* man was as mistaken as have been so many of us who, in the course of the years, have advanced the same ideas, and as mistaken as those who in Israel and outside still believe that this is the way to a Middle Eastern peace.

There may have been opportunities in the past—before 1955—which the Israelis did not grasp, but today the state of affairs is very different. In fact, the time has come to ask bluntly whether the whole process of seeking a settlement should not be reversed. Let us begin with the proposition advanced by *The Times*, that Israel should become a part of the Middle East world. But how? What is the current price of admission to this supposedly so desirable and exclusive Middle East club? What must Israel do to become acceptable?

\* \* \*

She could take back the Arab refugees; she could choke herself with a hundred thousand or with half a million, or with all of them—if they care to come. But we have the assurances, which the Secretary-General of the Arab League gave to the UNRWA Director, Dr. John Davis, in Cairo on Sunday (*see the next page*). Taking back the refugees would settle nothing as yet. It might ruin Israel but it would not make her acceptable; on the contrary. This was not an isolated statement by Mr. Khalek Hassouna. Every Arab leader from President Nasser downwards has said the same thing, at least in public.

In private, they may assure visitors that they do not mean it that way, that some gesture of this kind would make them more reasonable towards Israel. But it must be emphasised that, as far as Arab politics are concerned, and have been concerned, for many years, what matters are not the private inclinations but the

public declarations. The trouble is that there is not one really powerful and self-confident Arab leader today who can lead public opinion into the ways of constructive co-existence with Israel. Not even Nasser can do it; even he is afraid to turn Arab nationalism from its path of destructive unreality which is rapidly transforming the Arab world into a second constellation of Soviet satellites. Nasser's theory of socialism may remain independent of Moscow communism, but his armed forces, his industry, his irrigation and agriculture are already virtual appendages of Moscow. And it is these things that count, not Mr. Haikal's wordy polemics with Moscow.

\* \* \*

Thus the refugees may not really help Israel to get into the club. What else should she offer? The Negev, Western and Central Galilee, Lydda and Ramle—all demands formally made by the Arab states to the U.N. Conciliation Commission? Here also, we have been assured by the Arab leaders that either part or the whole would not lead to the acceptance of Israel. But the question in any case would not arise. There would be no need for them to accept such an Israel. It would be unable to exist. So in what way should Israel become acceptable?

There is one way left. The opposite to that proposed in *The Times* article by refusing to seek admission to or participation in this Middle East world. By not building golden bridges of reasonableness, by proceeding on the assumption that Israel has not the slightest desire to join this club where she is not wanted—and to mean what she says. This does not mean that she does not want a settlement.

She could begin next week by addressing a note to the Belgrade conference of the so-called uncommitted nations drawing their attention to the urgent need for peace not only in Berlin, but also on the borders of the sponsors of the conference. They might begin by setting an example in negotiating a settlement. Why should the world listen to Nasser or Nehru when these two preach negotiations in Europe, but resist them when they concern Israel or Kashmir?

The lesson which has to be learnt in the Middle East—especially by those who dispense advice to others—is that Israel will not be accepted into the Middle East world because she tries to become a part of it. Israel will become a part of the Middle East only when the Arab world finds that to keep Israel out will be more costly, more damaging to them and more ineffective than to find a way of negotiated co-existence. It is a lesson which the uncommitted leaders assembled this week in Belgrade might bear in mind when they come to consider the "Palestine question."



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- Cover: Tito, Nehru, Nasser, Hassan, Soekarno, N'Krumah and the Conference Building in Belgrade where the Assembly of some of the "uncommitted and unaligned" nations opened on September 1.

— Photo : Keystone

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## U . N .

### STRANGE VISIT BY REFUGEE DIRECTOR

#### DAVIS CONSULTS ARAB LEAGUE BEFORE REPORTING TO HAMMARSKJOLD

London :

Dr. John H. Davis, the Director of the U.N. Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees, arrived in Cairo last weekend on his way to New York, where he is to present his report on the Agency's activities to the U.N. Secretary-General.

On Sunday, Dr. Davis called on the Secretary-General of the Arab League, Abdul Khalek Hassouna, at the headquarters of the League. After the meeting, Mr. Hassouna said that he had discussed the problem of Palestine and of the refugees with the U.N. Director, and that Dr. Davis had given him an outline of the report which he would be making later to Mr. Hammarskjold.

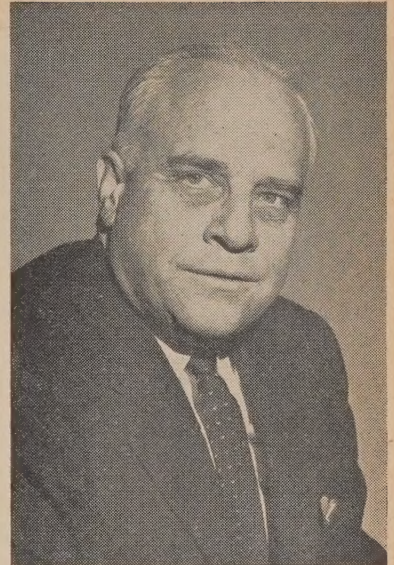
Mr. Hassouna added that he had made his comments in the light of the Arab position on the refugees which was that the refugee problem could not be isolated from the larger question of Palestine.

**No contact with Israel:** Dr. Davis's unprecedented action in consulting with the Arab League before making his report to the Assembly is bound to produce some raised eyebrows, not only in New York and Jerusalem, but also in Paris and London. It should also not go unnoticed in Washington.

For, unlike his predecessors, Dr. Davis has taken an increasingly vocal stand in support of the Arab position on the refugee problem. His report to the last Assembly gave a wholly uncritical account of the Arab arguments, which he evidently accepted, and in a speech last January to the World Refugee Year conference at Geneva, Dr. Davis went considerably further in identifying himself with the Arab position.

Throughout his tenure of office he has made no direct contact with the Israel Government, and has not endeavoured to see for himself what conditions are like in Israel.

**Political implications:** But his latest step, which must look to Jerusalem very much like an act of collusion with the Arab League secretariat before presenting his report to the Assembly, will no doubt lead to some curious inquiries in New York as to the propriety and political implications of this Cairo visit.



U.N.'S DAVIS  
Who vetted the Report?

## ISRAEL

### BEN-GURION'S COUP

#### MAPAI'S LEADERSHIP UNITED —LIBERALS REJECT HERUT OFFER

from our own correspondent

Jerusalem :

While everyone has been saying, with a sad shake of the head, that Ben-Gurion has either lost interest or lost his grip on the conduct of party politics—and the Prime Minister seemed almost to encourage this gossip—he has quietly brought off one of his more spectacular coups.

In a sense, it is all the more surprising because no one seems to have paid any attention to it—least of all Ben-Gurion's political opponents. They have been far too busy eating their election slogans and arguing whether or not to join a Mapai coalition.

What Ben-Gurion has in fact achieved is to unite the Mapai leadership. He has been working very closely with Mrs. Meir, with Finance Minister Eshkol, the Mapai veteran Zalman Aranne and with the Tel Aviv party boss, Shraga Netzer. He has called together the Mapai Ministers and the Histadrut leaders for joint consultations.

**Tremendous accession of strength:** The effect of this seems not yet apparent



to the opposition, but it will be before long. It means that, for the first time since the Lavon affair broke last autumn, Ben-Gurion and the so-called Ben-Gurionists will no longer be isolated and distinct from the rest of the Party.

From now on, an attack on Ben-Gurion will be also an attack on Mrs. Meir, on Eshkol, on Josephy and on the party generally. It means a tremendous accession of strength to Ben-Gurion's bargaining power in the negotiations that lie ahead.

**Meir or Dayan?** But it would be too much to say that there are no more problems in Mapai. There are, but they will not be tackled, and need not be, until the future government is settled. In particular, the position of the Secretary-General of the Party is again the subject of much discussion.

Joseph Almogi, the party's General-Secretary, has let it be known that he would like to be relieved of the post. To fight two general elections and an "affair" within two years, he told his colleagues, was as much as any man could stand. There has been no let up for Almogi since he took over in 1959, and there is much sympathy with his feelings.

But who should take his place? Two names are heard with increasing frequency in the more private party discussions. The first is Mrs. Meir—and this has already reached the point of public discussion; and the second one is Moshe Dayan. This suggestion, which, it is re-

liably stated, would not be rejected by Dayan, has been met by a mixture of incredulity and excited interest in inner party circles.

**End of the alternative:** The reason for it is not hard to see. Mapai has still to face some serious hurdles, both inside the party and in the country. She will need not only a hard centre but also a rather more effective image than that which was presented to the electorate at the last election.

The whole party machine needs overhauling and, especially, its most entrenched local party bosses need to be replaced. This will need a strong hand at the helm—and the suggestion that Dayan may be the right man for the job may in a few more weeks seem less incongruous to Mapai leaders than it does at present.

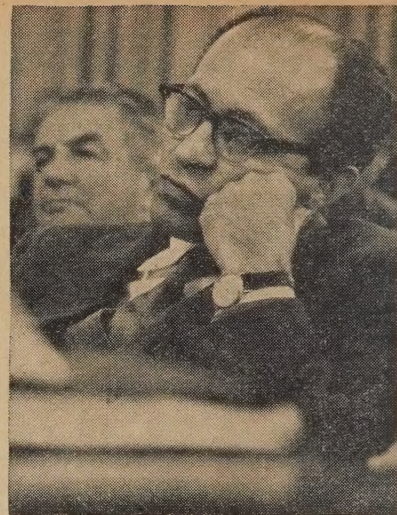
On Tuesday there was an air of unmistakable relief in Mapai quarters when they heard that the Liberal leadership had rejected the Herut offer to form a joint National Liberal bloc in the new Knesset. For this, in Mapai's opinion, means the end of the theory of the Liberal alternative.

**For Sapir, read Sapir?** Together with Herut, the Liberals would have had a voting strength of 34 against Mapai's 42—at least, the beginning of an alternative. But memories are deep and strong in Israel, and even among the General Zionists in the new Liberal Party there is a powerful group that will never trust Beigin or forgive him for the part that he played in the formative months of the establishment of Israel. And the same is even more true of the socialists who provide the mass following of the former Progressive Party. For them, Beigin has not yet worked his passage.

But that leaves the Liberals with ever shrinking alternatives. Mapai will not agree to a Cabinet in which a Mapai majority is not assured, even if necessary by the Premier's casting vote. Mapai will not give up control of either Defence or Finance. It may offer the Foreign Ministry to Izhar Harari or Trade and Commerce to Joseph Sapir.

Harari's outlook on Israel's foreign policy is known to be far more in harmony with that of Ben-Gurion than that of Goldmann, and Joseph Sapir's economic policy would not differ greatly from that of Pinhas Sapir who now holds the post for Mapai.

**Goldmann's letters:** Rather more intriguing is the position of the Ministry of Education, now held by Abba Eban. Two Liberals would like to have it, the former General Zionist Elimelech Rimalt and the former Progressive, Moshe Kol, who is generally considered as the effective



UNFORGIVING PAST  
*Beigin contemplates the Liberal rejection*

leader of the Party. At least three other candidates are being mentioned by different parties for the post. Which means that Eban will probably stay.

But we are still far from the end of the road, and the hopeful new ministers still far from their portfolios. One obstacle on the way comes from the letters which Dr. Goldmann has addressed to the Liberal leadership and which were published here at the weekend.

In these, Dr. Goldmann strongly counsels the Liberal leaders against entering a Mapai-dominated coalition unless they first get all their demands: a cabinet without a Mapai majority and some of the key positions in the government.

**Problem of a policy:** And now the Liberals are being reminded that they have not yet formulated a policy programme. It was left until after the elections. They will soon have to decide whether to accept the *faits accomplis* of the elections, join a Mapai Government and try to influence it as best as they can.

Or they will have to take Goldmann's advice and stay out of the Government and continue to denounce Mapai's dictatorial aspirations. But this is one thing that is no longer an issue. There is hardly one serious political leader who still maintains that there ever was a threat to democracy, or is likely to be in the measurable future.

In private conversation, I have not found one Liberal, Herut, Mapam or Ahdut Avoda leader who would maintain the charge which was so freely made on the election platforms. And this should help in due course to restore a sense of balance to Israeli politics.



UNCERTAIN FUTURE  
*Liberals Sapir and Serlin weigh the prospects*



## ELECTION POST-MORTEM

### DISSECTION REVEALS PARTY STRENGTHS AND WEAKNESS

*from our own correspondent*

#### Tel Aviv:

A number of surprising changes are to be found in a close examination of Israel's election results. The area with the highest Mapai vote two years ago was Kinneret with 44.6 per cent, while this time Mapai's peak shifted far south to the Ashkelon area with 41.6 per cent.

Haifa with 39.03 per cent remained a centre of Mapai strength, but it still lost eleven per cent of its voters there. These losses include much of the oriental vote in Wadi Salib—which went to Herut, much to the local Mapai organisers' surprise, and also—rather more mysteriously—some of the Rumanian and Polish well-to-do middle class professional vote—which went to the communists.

In Petah Tikva, too, Mapai lost over four per cent, although that town continues to be a Mapai bastion. It was only in the Beersheba area that Mapai improved its standing—from 35.3 to 38.93 per cent.

If the Acre area is disregarded (many Arabs voted for Mapai-affiliated Arab parties, so that the "Jewish" Mapai wound up with only 20.45 per cent), the party made its worst showing in the Emek with 28.8 per cent. But the same was true in the previous elections when the Emek also had the lowest Mapai percentage, namely 30.8. It is interesting, however, that Mapai's loss in the Emek—2 per cent—is only half as great as the party's loss on the national average.

**Tel Aviv favours Liberals:** Jerusalem has never been a Mapai stronghold, but this time the party's vote in the capital dropped from 34.1 to 28.78 per cent—more than 1½ times the average loss. Here again, despite the Sephardi "deal" with Mapai, the principal loss was among the oriental voters. In this sector Herut won back all the votes which were lost to Mapai in 1959.

The Liberal share of the votes increased in Tel Aviv, Haifa and in the Sharon region. In Tel Aviv, they nearly doubled their poll to close on 19 per cent. In Haifa, where one would have thought that the Liberals would do exceptionally well, they added merely 4 per cent to get 19.45 per cent of the total, while the bulk of the anti-Mapai protest vote went to Herut, and in Jerusalem they did even less well, gaining only 2 per cent.

Instead, the capital gave an additional

## FINAL ELECTION RESULTS COMPARED

	FOURTH KNESSET			FIFTH KNESSET		
	Votes	Percentage of Total	Seats	Votes	Percentage of Total	Seats
Eligible voters ... ..	1,218,483	—	—	1,274,280	—	—
Voted ... ..	994,306	81.6	—	1,037,030	81.4	—
Valid votes ... ..	969,337	—	—	1,006,964	—	—
Mapai ... ..	370,585	38.2	47	349,330	33.7	42
Herut ... ..	130,515	13.5	17	138,599	13.8	17
Liberals* ... ..	104,589	10.8	14	137,255	13.2	17
National Religious Party ... ..	95,581	9.9	12	98,786	9.5	12
Agudat Israel** ... ..	45,569	4.7	6	37,178	3.7	4
Poale Aguda ... ..	—	—	—	19,428	1.9	2
Mapam ... ..	69,468	7.2	9	75,654	7.6	9
Ahdut Avoda ... ..	58,043	6.0	7	66,170	6.5	8
Communists ... ..	27,374	2.8	3	42,111	4.1	5
Arab parties affiliated with Mapai ... ..	47,418	3.5	5	35,376	3.5	4
Other Arab parties ... ..	20,195	2.1	—	7,077	2.6	—

\* For elections to the 4th Knesset there were two separate lists—General Zionists and Progressives.

\*\* For elections to the 4th Knesset there was a combined list.

1 per cent to Herut, giving that party nearly 22.5 per cent above its national average. Herut's other centres of strength were to be found in Tel Aviv and Ramle.

**Mizrachi gains in Jerusalem:** The religious vote in Jerusalem continued to be the traditional quarter of the total, rising this time to 26.6 per cent, 1 per cent more than on the last occasion and nearly 12 per cent over the national average. Practically all the religious voting gains in the capital went to the Mizrahi which won 11.6 per cent, although Agudat Israel retained its slight

edge with 12.5 per cent, leaving Poale Aguda a long way behind with 2.5 per cent.

In the Tel Aviv area, all the religious parties each polled about 1 per cent less than their national averages, with a combined total of a little less than 14 per cent. But this was still a combined 3 per cent gain over the previous elections and was split about evenly between the three.

On the Left wing, although Mapam's national average was 7.6 and Ahdut Avoda's 6.5 per cent, it is noteworthy that in Tel Aviv and Jerusalem the situation was reversed. In Tel Aviv, both par-

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ties together polled over 3 per cent less than their combined national average and in Jerusalem 6 per cent less; in both these districts, Ahdut Avoda had over half a per cent more than Mapam. Only in Haifa did their combined poll reach the national average and Ahdut Avoda had a half per cent more than Mapam. Both parties derived most of their strength from the rural areas.

**Few communists in army:** The communists made most of their gains from the Arabs, although, as in every past election, a majority of Arab votes were cast for Jewish parties.

But, in addition to Haifa, there were also surprise accessions to the communist vote among the middle class Eastern European Settlers of Bat Yam (where Goldman made a strong appeal to them to vote Liberal) and in Holon.

In the Emek area, which includes the Arab communist stronghold of Nazareth, the communists polled the highest average with 13.8 per cent, 9.5 per cent above their national average, and in Acre they gained 13.5 per cent. In the Haifa area, the communists polled nearly 7 per cent, in Tel Aviv 6 per cent and in Jerusalem less than 1.5 per cent.

Mapai obtained 43 per cent of the Army vote (a sharp drop from the 50 per cent at the last election), followed by Herut with 18 per cent. The Liberals secured 11 per cent, Ahdut Avoda 10 per cent, Mapam 9 per cent and the National Religious Party 5.5 per cent. The communist vote within the Army was almost non-existent.

## WHAT HAPPENED TO YOSSELE?

### A STRANGE CASE OF BIGOTRY

*from our own correspondent*

#### Jerusalem:

Hundreds of policemen in Israel and not a few in London are searching for a nine-year old boy, named Yossele Schumacher, who has vanished, and an application has been presented for the extradition of a Jewish resident of London, Shalom Shtarkes, on a charge of kidnapping.

The whole story sounds so fantastic that, if it had not repeatedly been the subject of hearings before the Supreme Court in Jerusalem, people would hardly believe that such things could go on in a civilised country in the twentieth century.

It is a story of religious bigotry practised by a powerful orthodox organisation, Agudat Israel, which, by its behaviour, seems to have endorsed a



IF THEY KNOW, THEY WON'T SAY

*Mrs. Rachel Kaff of Komeiut after her arrest on a charge of complicity in the kidnapping*

shocking violation of basic human rights.

The tale of events goes back to Russia in 1937, when Nahman Shtarkes\*, an extremely pious man, applied for permission to emigrate to Palestine and was sentenced for this to ten years' penal servitude in Siberia. Two years before his term was up, he was released, moved to Lvov and, after trying for another twelve years, managed to get to Israel in 1957.

**Living on charity:** He settled in the Jerusalem orthodox quarter of Mea Shearim, where he has since been living with his wife on £65 (£13) a month charity, doing no work and studying Talmud most of the time at Neturei Karta synagogues.

One of Reb Nahman's sons, Ovadia, went to England, where he now works as a ritual slaughterer. Another, Shalom, also came to Jerusalem, while his daughter Ida Schumacher and her husband arrived in Israel in 1958, one year after Reb Nahman's immigration.

The Schumachers came with their two children. Zina (now 14) and Yossele (now 9). They found it tough going at first, lived in a dingy room, had no regular jobs. Since Nahman Shtarkes had a proper home in Jerusalem, he agreed with pleasure to look after his two grand-

children until their parents should get settled.

**Is she orthodox?** They soon took the girl back and put her into a religious educational institution, but when the mother wanted to take Yossele, about a year after her arrival, her father suddenly refused to part with him. He charged that the mother was planning to return to Russia and that, even if she was not, she would not give the boy a proper religious education.

There might have been some truth in his claim. Ida Schumacher now says that, during her early days in the country, she hinted that she was going to re-emigrate in order to provoke the settlement authorities into giving them better housing.

Many consider her religious orthodoxy highly questionable too, although she says it is not, but she has since registered the boy in a State religious school in Holon, near Tel Aviv, where she and her husband live.

**Right to her son:** But whatever the mother's intentions, she has the inalienable right to bring up her child the way she thinks fit. She would be entitled to get him back even if she wanted to return to Russia and enrol him in the Komsomol.

Nothing doing, said the grandfather. He would not give Yossele back, but would send him to a yeshiva and make him a Talmudic scholar. In the meantime

\* His correct name is Shtarks, but has been corrupted in the unvowelled Hebrew press to Shtarkes, which is how he is always referred to now.



he denied his daughter access to her son and systematically set about poisoning his mind against his own mother.

This went so far that, when she called at her father's home in Mea Shearim one day, and a messenger was sent to the *cheder* to bring the boy to see his mother, he refused to come, sending word that he did not want to see her because, when he was ill, she had refused to visit him.

**Unavailing search:** With a heavy heart Ida Schumacher took her father to court, where he was ordered to return the boy immediately. But the old man had been prepared for this eventuality. He asked the late Chief Rabbi of Jerusalem, Zvi Pessah Frank, for a *halachic* ruling on the matter. Frank, without so much as hearing the mother's case, "forbade" Nahman Shtarkes to return the boy to his parents. Shtarkes in turn took an oath never to give the boy up. He concealed him with the help of other people whose names are only now being gradually uncovered.

Police started searches for Yossele, but to no avail. However both the public and the courts were amazed when the police in April last year, took an unprecedented step—they asked the Court to release them from the obligation to search for the boy.

Supreme Court Justice Agranat called this "fantastic." Dismissing the police request, he asked: "Would the police stop searching for a thief, if they were threatened with terror?" A month later, the court ordered Nahman Shtarkes to be jailed until he revealed the boy's whereabouts.

**Searches continued:** The police meanwhile continued their fruitless searches. Then, four months ago, the court ordered Reb Nahman to be released for a short period upon his promise that he would look for the boy, since he had meanwhile begun to claim that he no longer knew where his grandson was. He said he had been taken away by "good Jews."

Throughout this time, Agudat Israel played a very dubious role in the affair. Its spokesmen in the Knesset attacked the "barbarity" of the police, and criticised the inhumanity of a daughter who dragged her father into court. On the other hand they would not condemn the grandfather's conduct by a single word.

Aguda Knesset Deputy Lorincz offered to mediate between Ida and her father. He suggested that he should be appointed legal guardian of the boy who should study at a *yeshiva* until he was 18. His mother would be allowed to see him regularly.

**Taken from Jerusalem:** Ida was already willing and an agreement had already been drawn up, when her father



HELD FOR QUESTIONING  
Is the answer in London?

backed out at the very last minute.

But in the meantime, the police had made some progress. In July this year they discovered that Yossele had been taken from Jerusalem to the Aguda village of Komemiyut. Yossele's alleged abductor was Shtarkes' son, Shalom, who had meanwhile joined his brother Ovadia in London.

The arrests of six people followed in quick succession, and the police asked the Foreign Ministry to get Shalom Shtarkes extradited from Britain. In London on Tuesday, Shalom Shtarkes appeared before a magistrate at Bow Street on an extradition charge. A detective inspector told the court: "We have good information that the child is in this country and we are making inquiries to find him."

**Arbitration refused:** Shtarkes senior was still at large when the approach to Britain was made and appealed to the Supreme Court to set him free because "I have done all I could to find my grandson." But Shtarkes was clapped back into jail.

That there was some justification for doubting his good faith was apparent from a strange interlude with Chief Rabbi Nissim, who had offered to settle the whole affair, on condition that both parties signed an arbitration agreement, committing themselves in advance to accept his verdict.

At a preliminary meeting at Nissim's home, Shtarkes refused to ask Nissim to release him from his oath never to return

Yossele to his parents. Neither was he willing to tell Nissim all he knew about the case. A week later, when the second meeting was due, Shtarkes simply said no, and the mediation attempt was dropped.

**No condemnation from Mizrahi:** That is where the matter stands now. Few new developments can be expected until or unless the British authorities hand over Shalom Shtarkes to the Israel police. What is remarkable, however, is the attitude of the religious parties in Israel. When Knesset Member Lorincz some weeks ago issued a statement to the effect that "Agudat Israel disapproves of Yossele's abduction" he was taken to task by other Aguda leaders because he had made such a declaration "without consulting the party's higher institutions."

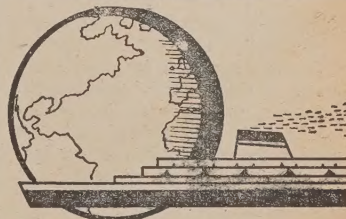
There was no word of condemnation from the other religious parties either. Neither Poale Aguda nor the Mizrahi seems ready to speak up for what all have so often proclaimed—the right of parents to bring up their own children.

## LESSON IN EXPANSIONISM NOT A SHOT FIRED IN J.N.F. BATTLE

*from our own correspondent*

### Jerusalem:

Several years ago, the Syrians, who have not yet learned to live with the idea that the Upper Jordan flows through Israeli territory, occupied the strategic hill of Tel-el-Muteila, six miles south of Kfar Hanassi, a short distance north-east of the point where the river



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flows into Lake Tiberias. The Israelis immediately brought up an infantry unit and re-took the hill, suffering serious losses in the process.

Although the Syrians were thus forced to retire, the Israelis withdrew as well, because of the impossibility of maintaining a garrison on a bare and inaccessible hill-top for any length of time. From that time until a few months ago, the area around Tel-el-Muteila, deserted as it was, remained a danger, a situation aggravated by the fact that the hill-top lies only a few yards from the demilitarised zone—an area in which Israel is prohibited from maintaining troops under the Armistice Agreement.

As a result, the Syrians made themselves almost at home there, harassing fishermen on Lake Tiberias and making it well-nigh impossible for Israel to use the high-grade land of the area. For all practical purposes, the territory was beyond Israel's borders.

**Offers from Tel Aviv:** Last week I stood some twenty yards from the top of Tel el-Muteila, which commands the entire valley of the mouth of the Jordan. An area of about 350 acres around me had been cleared of rocks and stones, laying bare the rich, dark-brown earth underneath—a soil so good that the J.N.F., which is carrying out the reclamation work, is flooded with offers from Tel Aviv businessmen who want to buy the land for large-scale vegetable growing and are so confident of their profits that they are willing to return the land free after three years.

Not a Syrian was in sight as I wandered around the hillside where, only a few months ago, U.A.R. patrols roamed at will.

What has brought this land back into Israel is a 24-mile road (costing about



WHERE THE JORDAN (LEFT) FLOWS INTO LAKE TIBERIAS  
*Stone by stone, new land is uncovered*

£4,000 per mile) cut through the rocks that separate Tel el-Muteila from the Tiberias-Rosh Pina highway, which makes it possible for bulldozers to reach the projected settlement area. The new region is being called Korazim after an ancient synagogue from the period of the Second Temple, whose well preserved ruins can still be seen in the vicinity.

**Nahal taking over:** The Korazim region comprises a total area of 6,000 acres, of which 2,000 will be cultivable when reclaimed in a few years' time. Four villages, one of them a fishermen's hamlet, will then be built there.

At present, bricklayers and carpenters are already at work building houses for the settlers of the first village who will move in this autumn. They are not ordinary settlers but a group of volunteers from the ranks of Nahal (Pioneer Fighting Youth). These Nahal youngsters (who are one of the main attraction for visitors from Africa and Asia) are a unique band. They are superbly trained both as farmers and as soldiers and are sent to border villages which are of great security importance but where it is not feasible to maintain regular army garrisons.

Experience in the war and later has shown that the best peripheral defence is a densely settled farming population well trained in the use of arms. Naturally, these Nahal farmers are not expected to bear the entire financial burden of working their land and guarding it. The army gives them subsidies as compensation for the working days lost through mounting armed guard.

**Near Shatta:** The first stage of the Korazim settlement project costs

£850,000, towards which the British section of the J.N.F. has pledged a contribution of £250,000.

A similar project has now been completed further south: on the Gilboa range of hills along the Jordanian border south of Affula and west of Beit She'an (Beisan). These hills are located near the Shatta prison (from which 66 convicted fedayeen broke out about three years ago). It is now believed that they managed to make good their escape by climbing through the wilderness of the Gilboa Hills until they reached the Jordanian town of Jenin, whose outskirts can be seen from Israel territory.

That area, too, was practically isolated from Israel because of lack of access. Again, J.N.F. engineers cut a road out of the rock, but this was such a difficult enterprise that work could be carried out only from the two ends towards the centre. The bulldozers started in the valley and inched their way forward, creating their own ground as they went.

**Hanging out the washing:** The whole Gilboa project commands 14,000 acres, of which roughly 5,000 can be converted into good farmland. For most of its length, the road runs closely parallel to the Jordanian border and, in one sector, the shoulder of the southern road ditch is the frontier.

Last year it would have been impossible to tour this area except with a security guard of infantry. Last week, I drove past in a station wagon while Jordanian soldiers were hanging up their washing 25 yards away and looking at us with curious eyes. The first settlers in the Gilboa region will also be Nahal pioneers.

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# IN THE NEWS

## BEN-AHARON'S TORTURE CHAMBER

THE LAST, IF NOT (one hopes) the most lasting impression of the departing visitor from Israel, is Lydda Airport. Imagine yourself, tanned, rested and somewhat more out of pocket than you had bargained for, but content and excited with your visit—possibly the first—to Israel. You have read all about the wonderful new flights that take you in next to no time to London (4 hours and 20 minutes, one line claimed), or to Geneva or Paris and on to New York. You are all set for one of these short and comfortable flights for which you have paid no mean price—£141 from London and £313 from New York.

You arrive at Lydda Airport in good time, for you have been warned not to report later than one hour before departure time. You drive through the fresh morning air, through the groves where the oranges are beginning to take shape and you come to a halt outside the departure lounge at Lydda, relaxed and happy. And then you enter the lounge. The temperature inside is well up in the nineties. There were on Monday morning some four hundred passengers and friends and probably around six or seven hundred pieces of luggage milling around or lying about, and half a dozen porters vainly trying to cope with the bags and their owners in five different languages. There were two long queues of some hundred passengers at the El Al counter going to London and New York, attended by two clerks, while another one coped with a Paris flight. At the other end of the hall, B.O.A.C. were dealing with a load of their own, but there was no provision for mothers with babies, for children or for elderly people. The scene reminded me of the last war in Europe when anxious refugees clamoured to leave on the last train that never came. It was a miracle—not organisation—that not more luggage, or more passengers were lost in transit.

### TOUCHING TACT

I checked my own time-table. I travelled fairly light and suffered much less than most. My El Al plane was due to leave at 9 a.m. As requested, I had arrived before 8—with something like a quarter of an hour to spare. So, fortunately for El Al, had most of the passengers. By 8.30 we had checked in, changed our money (one clerk for the



TRANSPORT MINISTER BEN-AHARON  
*Thirteen years on, still a shambles*

lot), had a quick passport and customs check and were ready to go aboard. By 8.40 we were in the plane, which was standing in the sun with no air conditioning. By 9.15 we were still sitting in the plane, past caring. The only remaining feeling we had was an all-pervading dampness. Ten minutes later, we left on our flight. With almost touching tact we were informed by the steward that the cause of our delay was that we had to wait for some passengers—presumably important ones—who were late. That made us all feel really good.

### GENERAL CHAOS IN COMMAND

Now, I know the story of Lydda Airport. It is under construction and is being improved by the Ministry of Transport. In fact, Lydda Airport has been under construction ever since July 1948, when it was captured by the Transport Minister's colleague, Yigal Allon. Matters have been greatly improved on the arrival side—though still far from perfect. But for the dear departing things have never been quite so bad. On Monday, it looked to me as if the only authority that could produce some order was the army—reinforced by a series of courts martial of the guilty ones. Who is responsible for this shambles? The airlines say it is the Ministry of Transport, the Minister says it is the airlines.

But neither Minister nor airlines seem to have anyone on the spot who could exert either control or authority. Apart from the overworked porters and the

harassed clerks and ground hostesses, there seemed to be no one in charge except General Chaos.

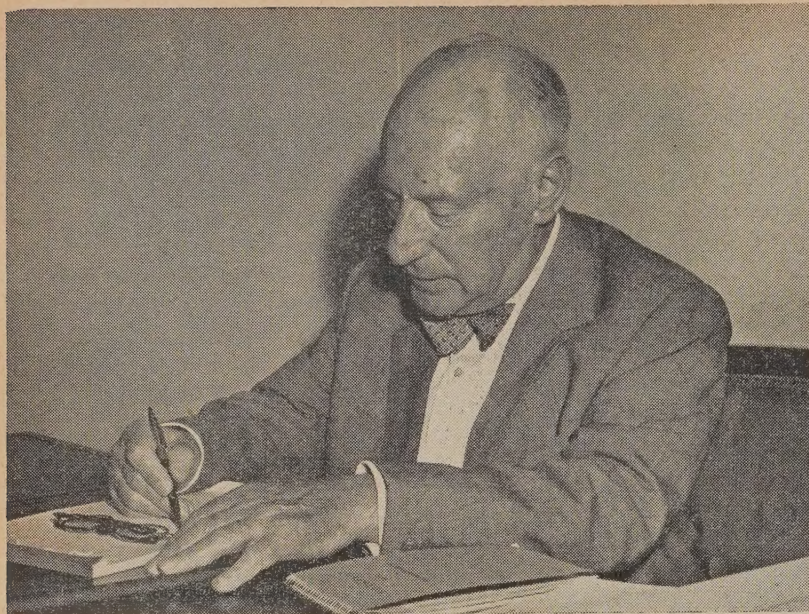
## MORE THAN A TRICKLE

ISRAEL IS AGAIN becoming immigrant conscious. A few hours spent in Haifa port make one realise that something is happening on this front. Ships are coming in with large complements of immigrants, and preparations for their immediate absorption have been put into operation. No figures have been issued by the authorities but some idea of what is involved can be gauged from the crash programme introduced by the Ministry of Housing. The scheduled number of housing units to be built immediately has been trebled. The impact can also be seen in the Jewish Agency's absorption budget and in the Government's financial straits which are described by Yohanan Ramati on page 20. One thing is clear: the special correspondent of *The Times* who described immigration as "a trickle" in an otherwise thoughtful and provocative article last Monday, was rather wide of the mark.

## EMIGRANTS RETURNING TO ISRAEL

SOMETIMES STATISTICS PROVIDE no answer. One has to look for some facts among the people and not among the figures. One of these concerns a curious class of immigrants arriving in perceptible numbers in Israel. There is no welcoming committee for them. Their arrival is not advertised or announced even to their old friends. For they have old friends in Israel, and it is they who suddenly notice that the former emigrés have returned again. They are in Haifa and in Tel Aviv. They are coming back from Germany, from Canada and the United States and from even further afield. In the 1950's, around 8,000 residents emigrated every year. In more recent years, these have included some quite well-established business people who thought it would be simpler to work outside Israel. It is these who have come back. They have, it seems, discovered that Israel was not quite so bad after all; and that they could earn more and live better in Israel than outside. It is impossible to say how many have so far returned. I don't think the figure is large. But it is a trend that may have significance.





HARRY SACHER

*Wit, wisdom and more than a mite of pure obstinacy*

## HARRY SACHER AT EIGHTY

### A BIRTHDAY TRIBUTE BY MEYER W. WEISGAL

This Sunday—September 3—Harry Sacher will celebrate his 80th birthday.

There will probably be a moment in the day's festivities when he will pause to think back across the long, full stretch of his years, and, if he does so, perhaps he will even stop, for a second, to remember, as I do now, the first time we met—more than thirty years ago.

I recall that we sat for hours in the lobby of a New York hotel and talked and argued. We argued about everything that mattered to either of us, which was a lot: Zionism, the destiny of *das Yiddische* folk, the future of the world and the place of Palestine in it. We agreed on nothing. But I learned a lot from Harry then—and have gone on learning from him ever since. Learning—and arguing!

**Famous as a "neinsager":** Curiously one of the things he taught me that afternoon—with no possible idea of the importance it would have for me in the years ahead—was the literal meaning of the charming phrase "unearned increment". Harry's explanation was so succinct that, forthwith, I dedicated myself to removing as much of this burden from those afflicted by it as possible. But, also, he taught me other things: among them his own stern values, his probity and knowledge. I was tremendously impressed by him, and entirely captivated.

In the traditionally argumentative and captious family of Zionist workers and thinkers, Harry has become famous as a *neinsager*. Not, mind you, as a man who ever criticised for criticism's sake, nor one who ever contradicted for the pleasure of contradiction; but as a thoughtful friend, deeply aware of what was what. And it was towards reality—often grim, sometimes tragic—that he pulled all the rest of us.

His contribution to Zionism is enormous. It was so even before 1917 and the Balfour Declaration. A meticulous and gifted writer, he served on the editorial staff of the *Manchester Guardian* in its finest days, an intimate associate of its great editor, C. P. Scott. In company with the late Herbert Sidebotham, Sacher helped to create the finest Zionist periodical of its time. One of the finest ever published, I think, and I was myself the editor of a Zionist publication then, and knew all the problems involved.

**Attitude to Weizmann:** But in Sacher's *Palestine*, I found fortnightly a combination of journalistic skill and political subtlety which I never came across again anywhere else. For those of us "marooned" on the other side of the Atlantic, Sacher's writings were important to a degree which is hard to believe today.

Last week, I re-read some of his essays

on Zionism and some of his classic Zionist portraits. They are available in Hebrew now, and I earnestly commend them to those who are interested in the development of Zionist thought and perception, and in the unique and rich personalities bred by the Zionist movement in the era before the State.

Harry had many friends among the Zionist leadership. One of those to whom he was most devoted was Chaim Weizmann. But Sacher's devotion could be neither blind nor undiscerning, and his attitude towards "the Chief" was that of a junior partner, prepared to evaluate, to assess, and when necessary, to advise.

**Formidable team:** In his book *Zionist Portraits and Other Essays*, Sacher describes Weizmann as he knew him, with a clear insight born of years of intimacy.

"He was not a philosopher. This is evident even in the scientist, the bent of whose mind was always towards the practical and the applied, not to the theoretical and the pure. He was not an administrator . . . He would not have been recognised by the profession as a skilled diplomat, because he lived on a higher plane than theirs.

. . . He was not an ideal colleague, because he was too individual in his approaches, was embarrassed by the necessity of discussion and explanation, and had not too high an opinion of others. So much for what he was not. What he was, was a statesman. He had faith in his cause. He had imagination. He had a gift for inspiring confidence and conviction in men of high quality. He had an acute sense of the practical. He had high courage . . . He stood high above faction and party, and kept his eye steadily on the common goal . . . He had enduring patience and bold decision. He was the first President of Israel because he, more than any other man, made the State of Israel."

Sacher's attitude towards the land of Israel was one of equal love and understanding. The years he spent in Jerusalem, first as a practising lawyer, later as a member of the Zionist Executive, gave him a feeling about Jerusalem which he has never lost. This, like almost all the members of the Marks and Sieff families, he has successfully passed on to the second and third generation. Miriam Sacher has greatly helped and together they have made—and still make—a formidable Zionist team.

These are all reasons for admiring Harry; and his admirers are many. But one loves him for simpler things—wit, wisdom and that marvellous pure obstinacy which so infuriated and delighted me when Sacher was only 50!





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# AFRICA

## NOT SO GOLDEN GUINEA

### GROWING DISAPPOINTMENT WITH COMMUNIST AID

*from our special correspondent*

#### Conakry :

Have the Russians, Chinese and the many other communists operating in this country overplayed their hand? This is the overriding topic of discussion among western diplomats and foreign journalists in this neat, tree-lined capital of Guinea. It takes precedence even over the Belgrade conference of neutralists, an event with which it is in a way related.

Members of the American Embassy appear convinced of it. The impression given by them is that the Guinean leaders have realised their mistake in courting the communist bloc countries and are now scuttling back to the western fold.

The French Ambassador, who has a socialist background and is very popular among the Guineans, is more guarded in his views. So are other western diplomats. But most of them appear to feel that their previous despair concerning Guinea was uncalled for, and that the country is not yet entirely "lost" to the west.

**Feeling of disappointment:** A number of factors have contributed to this change of attitude and atmosphere. Most significant, perhaps, is the general feeling of disappointment among Guineans at the help given them by eastern bloc countries. The appellation "Czech" has become almost synonymous with the word "shoddy." A lot of the communist manufactures, in particular those of Czechoslovakia and East Germany, were found to be of inferior quality, or unsuited to the climate and conditions prevailing in Guinea.

This is true not only of consumer goods but also of machinery, farm equipment and trucks, some of which can be seen abandoned on the road from Conakry to Kankan. People are wistfully remembering the "good" days when the shops were stocked with French and other western goods.

This feeling of disappointment is not confined only to goods and equipment. The Guineans quickly found that many of the Czechs, East Germans, Hungarians and Russians who swarmed into Guinea in their hundreds were far less experienced in dealing with the peoples of an under-developed tropical country than

were the French. Many of them made mistakes. Many lacked patience. Many, indeed, had the same attitude of superiority as the westerners who preceded them.

**Cultural agreement with France :** And so the disenchantment began. It first reached a head in the schools, where open dissatisfaction was voiced with the teachers from East European countries who had replaced the French. Many of the Russian teachers knew no French at all and taught with the aid of interpreters. Others, particularly the large contingent of Yugoslav teachers, knew so little French that they were almost unintelligible to the pupils.

Most of these teachers have not had their contracts renewed, and this fact forms the background to the recent, and surprising, signature of a cultural agreement between France and Guinea. Now, for the first time since Guinea became independent, teachers from France have arrived here, and they are being very cordially received.

These developments, coupled with the fact that the Guinean Government has agreed for the first time to accept American aid on a large scale, are considered very significant. They create the backdrop to the American Ambassador's view that Sekou Touré is genuinely anxious to reduce his commitments to the east and to improve his relations with the west.

**Take it from anyone :** Yet, despite these encouraging signs for the west, old Guinea hands fail to share the optimism of the Americans. It is true, they agree, that Sekou Touré is today more prepared to accept aid from the west than he was a year ago. But even then he had had no intention of binding his country completely to the east.

The Guinean President—they say—is intent upon building up his country in as quick and as effective a manner as possible, and in order to achieve this aim he is prepared to accept aid from "colonialist" and "socialist" countries.

But, basically, his politics remain unchanged. He still metes out the favoured-nation treatment to the communist states, he still gives his support to all manner of "front" organisations, and his speeches are still very anti-western.

**Countrywide organisation :** A walk through the streets of Conakry, or a short trip to any nearby village is sufficient to feel the influence which communist methods and Marxist thinking have had on the Guinean state. Particularly noticeable in the capital are the loudspeakers placed every hundred yards or so along the main streets through which party and government pronouncements and anti-western propaganda are regularly relayed



SEKOU TOURE WITH MOROCCO'S HASSAN  
*Not all things French were bad*

to the citizens of Conakry. The loudspeakers are a present from East Germany.

In the villages men, women and children are organised to an extent equalled only in communist countries. Most of them belong to the all-powerful government party, the Parti Démocratique de Guinée, whose Politbureau is the real government of the country. A party official told me that even the remotest villages have their women's party organisations, their youth movements and their party functions.

The army is completely equipped with communist bloc arms. Czech, East German and other communist experts form the biggest group of non-blacks in the country, with the exception of the Lebanese and Syrian traders who, as elsewhere along the West African coast, form the principal merchant class.

**Unanswerable questions :** Some of the most influential members of the Government and the Party Politbureau, such as Ismail Touré and Keita Fodeiba, are still extreme fellow-travellers and openly support a pro-Soviet policy. Their opinions go far to influence Guinea's policies in international assemblies, such as the neutralist conference in Belgrade.

Thus, the picture one gets here in Conakry is not so simple as some westerners would have one accept. There are no simple answers to such questions as: "Have the Russians overplayed their hand?" or "Is Guinea lost to the West?"

Politically, as well as socially, African society is in a state of flux. The African politician is groping for new systems, new ideologies, and, in the meantime, he leans heavily either on the west or on the east.

Here in Guinea, they are, for the time being, still leaning on the east, despite the French teachers and despite the optimism of the American Ambassador.



## ISRAEL'S SUCCESS IN AFRICA SHOCKS LEAGUE

### KENYATTA'S ATTITUDE A BLOW TO CAIRO

from our special Middle East  
correspondent Robert Gee

It is impossible to say just how much money the U.A.R. has put into its massive effort to make friends and influence people in the newly-independent or soon to be independent states of Africa, but it is certainly a huge sum.

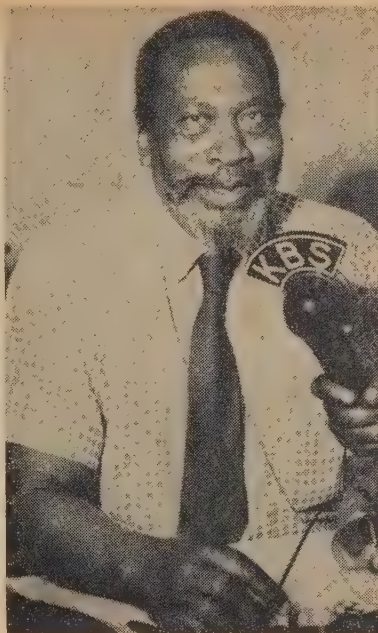
A great slice of it has gone to the staff of the Kenya Office here in Cairo which has been largely responsible over the years for Cairo radio's anti-British broadcasts to Africa and which, with Cairo's support, has been loud in calling for the release of Jomo Kenyatta and the establishment of an independent government and country led by him.

It will not be difficult, therefore, to imagine the shock with which the news was received here last week that Kenyatta had accepted an invitation from the Israel Government to visit the Jewish State at some future date. Not only did he accept the invitation with obvious pleasure, but he also referred to a similarity in the historical background of the two countries.

**Foretold :** To Egyptian officials charged with formulating and implementing an African policy, this was as good as a slap in the face. Not for the first time, they had barged in through the back door only to find their prospective host already chatting with an Israeli who had come in the front way.

And, underlining the failure of their effort to isolate Israel in Africa, a top-level Arab delegation, just back from a comprehensive tour of Africa, last week reported that, compared with Israel's efforts to establish economic and other relations with the newly independent states of the continent, Arab governmental activities were "almost non-existent."

The delegation, consisting of Arab League members, officials of the Arab League secretariat and representatives of the Federation of Arab Chambers of Commerce, returned here in what can only be described as a shattered state. They found not only that Israel had friendly commercial and diplomatic relations with such countries as Nigeria, Liberia, Sierra Leone and those in close association with France, but that even such signatories to the Casablanca dec-



JOMO KENYATTA  
*An invitation accepted with pleasure*

laration attacking Israel as Ghana and Guinea had, if anything, reinforced rather than severed their many close ties with Israel.

**"Escape" from blockade :** The delegation discovered, in fact, that what Cairo had trailed before them as a massive crack in the chain of friendship that the Israelis had forged in Africa, was nothing more than a surface scratch which the builders had already repaired.

Most of the delegates preferred to say nothing publicly and to keep what they thought to themselves for memoranda to their governments and the various organs of the Arab League. But the Jordanian delegate, Youssef el-Bina, shaken by his experience, could not contain himself. He could not help but feel the seriousness of Israeli penetration into Africa, he said. In the independent states of Africa, Israel had found "an escape" from the Arab economic blockade. The Israelis were primarily out to destroy the interests of the large Arab communities in those countries.

While mission members were parading their misery around Cairo and asking each other what they were going to do about it, the news came from Baghdad that General Kassem had instructed his Ambassador in New Delhi to approach the Indian Government with a view to having Israel excluded from the Asian Economic Planning Conference to be held in the Indian Capital at the end of next

month. Earlier, it was reported that Iraqi diplomatic missions in Europe had been instructed to express concern at the possibility that Israel might be admitted to the European Common Market.

**Cheap benzine :** Meanwhile, the U.A.R. has been casting around for some way in which it might impress itself upon Africa as a genuine friend concerned to help in a practical manner. The best idea that has been thought up so far is to divert surplus quantities of benzine from the Homs refinery in Syria to those many African states which have need of it. It would be sold to them at a greatly reduced price. Nobody, however, has thought to ask the luckless Syrians what they think about this or who will pay the expensive transport costs.

## KEEPING IN STEP, BY ORDER

### MORE U.A.R. PRESS CURBS FORESHADOWED

from a special correspondent  
now in Cairo

Cairo newspapermen, already gagged and bound by nationalisation of the press, groaned aloud last week when the details came over the tape from Damascus of a new "unified press law" for the U.A.R.

Its terms were outlined by Minister of State Abdel Kader Hatem during a visit to the Syrian Region. The new law, he

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stated, would include provisions designed to raise the standard of the press and to develop it to match its great task and the responsibilities shouldered by the U.A.R. Newspapermen, translating the officialese, foresaw even tighter curbs on their writing.

Their view was fortified by Hatem's rider that the law "would remove all problems now confronting journalists." As the main problem confronting them is whether they dare publish this or that comparatively harmless story, the implication in Hatem's statement was that even this limited choice would no longer be available.

But even those journalists unquestioningly toeing the nationalised line admitted that Hatem would be hard put to it to make the Egyptian press any duller than it now is.

**"End of regionalism":** The pill was barely sweetened by the promise that the law would also contain provisions aimed at providing journalists with housing, social and health insurance and pensions. Once, observed an old-timer, he would have been able to earn sufficient pay to buy these things for himself.

Hatem's choice of Damascus for his disclosure of the new press law is in line with the Presidential order that ministers in the new Cabinet must go out of their way to abolish any feeling—both in Egypt and Syria—that the two regions are separate parts of one whole. The President has decreed that unity has got to work and has suggested that the Cabinet can ensure this by frequent visits to Damascus and issuing important policy statements there.

His boldest step in this direction was his statement to a Cabinet meeting in Cairo on Saturday night announcing that,



NEW SYRIAN HOUSING PROJECT  
*For the people, or for peripatetic officials?*

henceforth, the seat of government would move from Cairo to Damascus from February to May of each year. This, he said, would mark the end of regionalism in the U.A.R. "I want no Egyptian ministers and no Syrian ministers, but only U.A.R. ministers working for one interest, one nation and one future," he told the assembled Cabinet.

**"Be decisive and firm":** In a general ruling on the "application of socialism," Nasser told his ministers that the public sector was expanding and that, if the executive machinery failed to shoulder its full responsibilities, thereby affecting the interests of the public, that would lead to doubts about socialism itself. It would not be socialism but those who failed to execute it properly who could be blamed.

Only by following a precise line of implementation could unity and Arab socialism be made to work, he emphasised.

First of all, there was a need to be decisive and firm, no matter what the circumstances. Ministers had to keep in close touch with each other, and he would be holding fortnightly meetings with the Vice-Presidents and ministers.

Everybody had to know his duty, from the Vice-President down to the low grade official. Local government had to be strengthened and defects eradicated. The system of local government had to be immediately applied to Syria.

Complete harmony between the planning and executive ministries had to be established and ministers had to accept

absolute responsibility for every aspect of their own particular speciality. Where laws and regulations were necessary to achieve smooth operation of the various ministries these must be introduced. Many of the laws and regulations now in effect, he pointed out, were obsolete and it was "imperative to face the situation on a unified and advanced basis."

**Without consultation:** Ministers appreciated his sentiments but few, except the Syrians, were happy with the idea of spending three or four of the dullest months of the year amongst a people for whom they have no great affection. Apart from that, Nasser's decision raises a host of administrative problems for which no-one has yet put forward any kind of solution.

Will ministers sit in Damascus while their staffs stay on in Cairo? If they are to take their staffs with them, are they also to take their files? If they don't take their files, how will they be expected to operate? And if they do, how will the machinery of government operate during the period of transfer?

It seems doubtful whether the President himself has gone into these practical details. He has got into the habit lately of issuing instructions, orders and decrees without consulting any of the ministers concerned and then leaving them to disentangle the mess he has made. But on the Syrian unity concept he will permit no backsliding. The order for the government to take up residence in Damascus for part of the year is intended to demonstrate to the Syrians that he means

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SYRIAN DEPUTIES IN SESSION  
Still looking for the glory and quite unimpressed

what he says and to stress international recognition of Egyptian-Syrian unity by requiring foreign governments doing business with the U.A.R. to follow the Cabinet to Damascus.

**Unimpressed:** Already, we have seen a flow of Egyptian deputies and ministers to Damascus. There was quite a gathering of them at Damascus stadium last Wednesday when Vice-President Amer, accompanied by Vice-Presidents Kahalla, Hussein and Serraj, opened the Fifth Universities' Week. Its theme, hammered home by the rector of Damascus University, was the need for the young people of both regions to come together more frequently.

High principles and ideas bind all U.A.R. youth who are ambitious and creative, said the rector. "This is the secret of the greatness of the political and social revolution started by the creator of the modern glory of our nation, President Gamal Abdel Nasser."

The Syrians, still looking for the glory, remain unimpressed.

## "IT'S STILL NOT SOCIALISM"

### PRAVDA MAN ON NASSERISM

President Nasser's recent nationalisation decrees were not only remote from communism, they were also remote from the building of socialism. So thinks

*Pravda* correspondent Mayevski, just back from a visit to the U.A.R.

Reviewing his experiences in Egypt, Mayevski said that, while scores of thousands of people had begun to live a better life, there were still millions living under the hard conditions created during the eras of imperialism and imperialist looting.

Agrarian reforms introduced a few years ago only partly changed the situation in the villages. There were many landowners who still had large holdings. Despite the fact that about 200,000 families in Egypt had obtained a share of the land, millions of peasants still remained without any and lived as labourers in conditions of extreme poverty.

**Deep discontent:** The bourgeoisie, stated Mayevski, had consolidated its positions and the foundations of the state had been shaken as a result of the illegal activities of financial monopolies and of rivalries, bribery and corruption. All this had given rise to deep discontent.

On the other hand, he had seen for himself with what pleasure the working people of Cairo and Alexandria had welcomed the nationalisation decrees of July 20. They wanted to be reassured that this would mean the strengthening of the national economy and its public sector, and the elimination of the authority of large private capital.

Other changes they would like to see on the road leading to socialism were the launching of further attacks on the positions of big feudalists, and improvements in the living standards of the masses.

**Only one variety:** This, observed Mayevski, was natural. The idea of socialism now had a power at once attractive and indescribable. A politician who was a sound thinker—especially in Asia and Africa—could no longer call on the people to build a capitalist society.

Not infrequently, even those who were trying to consolidate the authority of capital talked of socialism. The world now had countless varieties of socialism. But, in fact, socialism was not a matter of different varieties. There was only one type of socialism which was genuine—the one based on Marxist-Leninist teachings.

In Cairo, continued Mayevski, he had read articles which had tried to prove that the decrees of President Nasser represented, on the one hand, the building of co-operative-nationalist-Arab socialism, but, on the other hand, were not related to communism.



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**Not belittled:** In fact, the *Pravda* correspondent stated, these decrees were remote from communism. But they were also remote from the building of socialism. He hastened to add, however, that by saying this he did not wish to belittle the importance of the Presidential decrees. The people had pinned high hopes on them. But would these hopes be realised? That depended upon whether the decrees were carried out, or whether they were frustrated by reactionary forces.

Only time would show which path the peaceful development would follow. The leaders of the U.A.R. with nationalist leanings could see from their own experience that the country's progress, and the strengthening of its political and economic independence, could not be advanced without taking specific steps against imperialism and capitalism. In this, commented Mayevski, lay the meaning of the decrees which had been published in Cairo and their true significance.

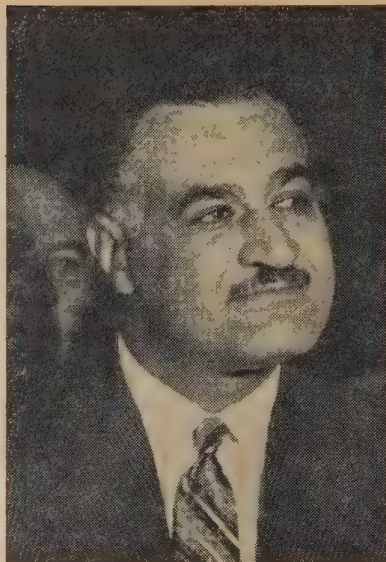
Whatever the conditions there, changes were taking place on the banks of the Nile. The people of the U.A.R. had emerged on the path of building an independent state, the path of liberation from imperialism and the raising of the status of their country. He wished them success on this path.

## BEST OF BOTH OIL WORLDS

### CAIRO SEEKS THE PROFITS WITHOUT THE PERILS

*from a special correspondent*

Egypt's output of crude oil increased from 3,158,000 tons in 1959 to 3,350,000 tons in 1960. However, the consumption



ONE STATE, ONE PEOPLE, ONE LEADER  
*If not by choice, then by decree*

of oil products during 1960 reached approximately 4,750,000 tons, of which fuel oil required for electric power and industrial use accounted for more than half, and kerosene for about 16 per cent. Thus Egypt's requirements still far exceed her crude oil output, though local refining capacity is now probably sufficient to cater for them.

Nasser's desire for self-sufficiency in oil is still some way from fulfilment. In 1959, for instance, Egypt had to import crude oil and oil products to the value of £21.4 million—approximately 8 per cent of the country's total import bill. By far the largest supplier was Russia, which sold the Egyptians 977,000 tons of crude oil and a further 500,000 tons of kerosene and gas oil.

Saudi Arabia supplied another 562,000 tons of crude oil, while Rumania sent 287,000 tons of oil products. Still another 247,000 tons of oil products came from other countries. Thus, Egypt imported altogether 1,539,000 tons of crude oil and 1,034,000 tons of oil products. Simultaneously, she exported 1,081,000 tons of crude oil and 56,000 tons of oil products, to a total value of only £4.2 million.

**Nationalisation decree:** During 1960, imports of crude oil were estimated once more at about 1,500,000 tons, of which Russia supplied two-thirds and Saudi Arabia one-third.

The oil industry in Egypt is strictly controlled by the "General Petroleum Authority," a Government body which is also the sole importer of crude oil and oil products. However, it not only allocates imports to marketing companies,

but also locally refined oil products, possessing wide powers to fix selling prices.

Last month, a Presidential decree nationalised Anglo-Egyptian Oilfields Ltd., the second largest producer of crude oil in Egypt, with concessions in the Red Sea and Sinai areas yielding about 1,200,000 tons in 1960. British Petroleum and Shell each owned about 31 per cent of the shares in Anglo-Egyptian Oilfields Ltd., and the nationalisation decree must have been a somewhat unpleasant surprise for them, though the wells concerned have not recently increased their yield.

**150 million tons in reserve:** The biggest producer of crude oil in Egypt is Oriental Petroleum Ltd., which owns the rich Belayim field. The latter covers some 15½ square miles, and reserves are estimated at some 150 million tons. The yield in 1960 was about 1,800,000 tons. Oriental Petroleum, which also owns two smaller fields in Sinai and is exploring further in the general area of the Red Sea, is controlled by Italian, Belgian and Egyptian interests. The latter include the Government as well as private persons. Whether another decree will serve Oriental Petroleum Ltd. as Anglo-Egyptian Oilfields Ltd. have already been served is a very open question.

The remaining producers include the new General Petroleum Company, which is wholly state-owned, and for the time being possesses three small fields at Baqr, Karim and Rahmi, as well as Mobil of Egypt.

Crude oil production figures do not give the correct picture of the importance of the nationalised Anglo-Egyptian Oilfields Ltd., since this company also owned the biggest oil refinery in Egypt. This is situated at Suez, and its output of refined oil products in 1960 reached about 3 million tons. The second-largest oil refinery, also at Suez, was already owned by the Government. Its 1960 output totalled some 1½ million tons.

**Hardly encouraging:** A third refinery, near Alexandria, has a capacity of only 250,000 tons per annum, but this is being expanded by an additional million tons through the importation of a new distillation unit from Czechoslovakia, which has also supplied a new unit to the Government-owned Suez plant.

Egypt's oil policy is thus becoming fairly clear. The Government is gradually assuming full control of crude oil output, refining, imports and marketing alike. Under such circumstances, the Egyptian authorities' desire for further foreign-financed prospecting—especially in the western desert—may prove difficult of realisation. The incentives provided by the experience of others are hardly encouraging.

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# GERMANY

## THE "THIRD MAN"

### ARABS IN NON-STOP UNDERGROUND WAR

from Paul Arnsberg

#### Frankfurt-am-Main :

It is immediately apparent to the visitor to any large German city that there is a strong Arab element in Germany today. The biggest group is made up of Algerian refugees, who are subject to the strict discipline of the Algerian freedom movement.

Many of them are engaged in the non-stop, underground war which is still going on, one of the more important factors in which is arms deliveries to Algeria. The French "Red Hand" organisation is one of the parties actively concerned in this minor war.

During the past few years it has led to many murders, and only lately an "American" arms dealer by the name of Seidenschur asked for police protection after being threatened with death. In these circumstances, the assassination of Salah Ben Youssef in this city; an undisguised espionage and counter-espionage centre, was nothing untoward.

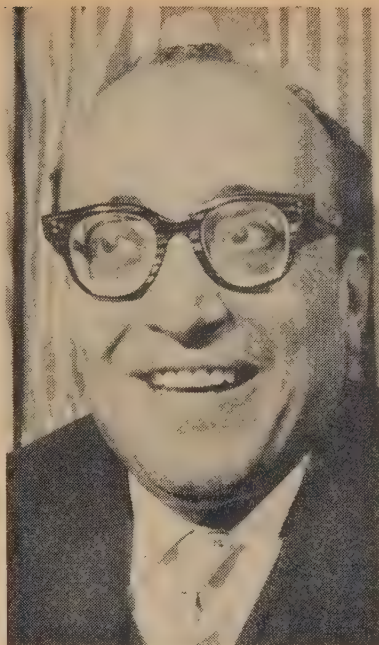
**Twice condemned to death :** The outward circumstances of the murder of this exiled Tunisian politician are more or less known, but there are some background facts which have not been made public, and these enable certain conclusions to be drawn as to the origins of the affair.

It is well-known that 51-year-old Salah Ben Youssef, a former Minister of Justice in Tunis and an active member of the Neo-Destour Party, had twice been condemned to death by a Tunisian court, the second time in 1958.

He was the "Generalissimo" of a "Tunisian Freedom Army" in Cairo and a deadly foe of the Tunisian chief of state, Habib Bourguiba. Ben Youssef's "Government-in-exile" enjoyed a considerable amount of support from Nasser.

**Met in Switzerland :** It was not generally known, however, that through the offices of an "unknown third party", a meeting had taken place in March of this year, in Switzerland, between the two rivals. The idea had been to bring about a reconciliation, but nothing came of it.

More recently, Ben Youssef had ac-



SALAH BEN YOUSSEF  
*Only the zither was missing*

cused Tunisia's president of making a diversionary incident out of the Bizerta affair, and had charged that his radical attitude was nothing more than a bluff. It could be, of course, that Bourguiba's radicalism actually came at an inconvenient time for Ben Youssef.

Three weeks ago Ben Youssef was convalescing in Wiesbaden, accompanied by his wife, when he received a telephone call one Saturday evening, inviting him to a meeting with two emissaries he did not know. The suggested venue was a third-class hotel in Frankfurt-am-Main, in the neighbourhood of the railway station. Ben Youssef agreed and set off for Frankfurt with his wife.

**False passports ?** It seems very strange, on the face of it, that an experienced politician should go off to a meeting in a third-class hotel in Frankfurt at the bidding of an unknown man. However, the riddle was solved when it became known that Ben Youssef's telephone caller was none other than the "unknown third party" who had been active in arranging the Swiss meeting with Bourguiba.

The whole matter becomes even more interesting when one realises that it was this unknown third party, whose identity has not yet been established, who also booked the room for the two emissaries Ben Youssef met in the hotel. The "third man" spoke a certain amount of German

and helped the emissaries, who were not acquainted with the language.

They booked in with Tunisian passports, and it was later established that they had arrived by plane from Switzerland that Saturday noon. It is an open question whether their Tunisian passports were genuine or not. What is a fact, however, is that the "unknown third party" was not present at the conversations and so was not directly involved in the murder.

**Not clear who killed :** The emissaries left the hotel after the murder, without paying their bill, and flew to Switzerland from Frankfurt airport, their seats on the plane having been booked in advance. This time they were accompanied by the "unknown third party". All three of them stayed in Switzerland only a short time, and then flew back to Tunis.

It is still not absolutely clear who murdered Ben Youssef, and probably never will be, and the question of who benefited from it can be answered in a number of ways.

But there is no doubt whatever that the murder of Ben Youssef has removed Bourguiba's most important opponent from the political scene. Perhaps somebody knew that Ben Youssef had intended to go to Guinea on the Sunday which turned out to be the day after his murder. He had been invited there by President Sekou Touré, and apparently, the background to the invitation was that Touré was said to have promised to recognise the Tunisian "Government-in-exile" in Cairo.

But Arab activity here today is not restricted to the underground war zone. Arab propaganda, entirely official, is becoming more and more obtrusive, seemingly because certain circles in German industry as well as in Bundesrepublik Government circles are allergic to the Arab question.

**No political demands :** The granting of a 1,000 million Deutschmark (£89,290,000) loan to the U.A.R. for the construction of the Syrian storage dam project is presented to German public opinion as a political success. There is a certain amount of gratification here that the Arabs are taking German money, although this loan transaction is said to have been connected with tremendous pressure from the United States.

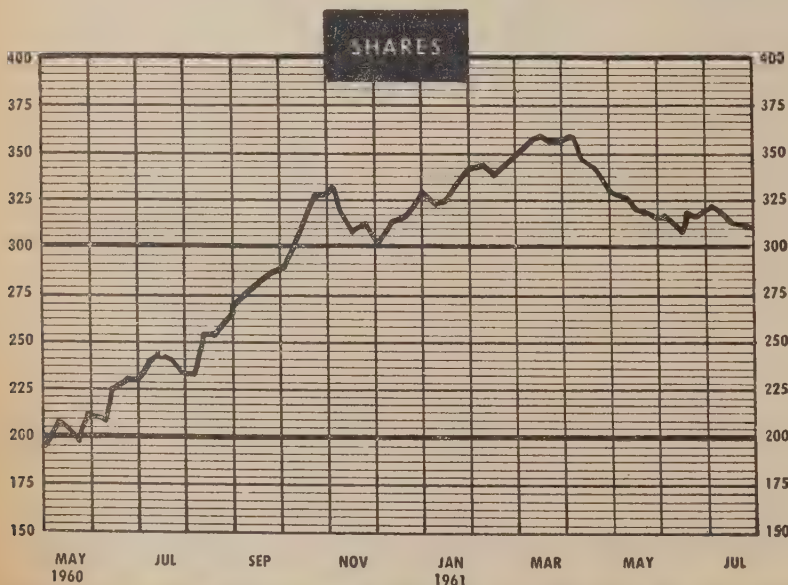
No political demands of any kind are made on the U.A.R. and even the news that the orders for technical equipment for the project would be placed in West Germany was modestly denied, although the denial was manifestly untrue.

The German public has also heard something of the U.A.R.'s attitude to Israel. Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser put forward his views in the form



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of various exclusive interviews with the German television service—a sort of “Arabian nights”.

**Photogenic Nasser:** There can be no doubt whatever that Nasser, who knows how to appear at his best on television, made the maximum use of this attribute, although the result was not unconditionally in accordance with the tastes of the mass German television audience spread across the country.

It might be by chance that, at about the same time, an article was published in the *Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung* asserting that diplomatic relations with Israel “are not yet possible.”

The writer of the article went on to point out how important it was for the west that the German image should be strengthened in the Arab world, since it was just this German influence which would prevent the Soviet Union from achieving a permanent grip on that vital area.

German relations with the Arab countries were traditionally good, the paper went on, and were “free of any burden of domination”. The origins of the German image (among the Arabs) were “special of their kind,” the article declared. This is not altogether wrong when one considers the sympathies still held by some in Iraq and Egypt today.

**“Bridgehead”:** The Federal Republic was holding a “bridgehead of confidence” in the Middle East, and this would all be destroyed if West Germany were to enter into diplomatic relations with Israel as long as the Arab countries looked on her as an “enemy,” said the *Allgemeine* somewhat boldly.

“Israel, determined, brave and armed to the last man, has in any case had no need to be afraid during the past few years,” the article declared, and would have nothing to fear for as long as the Soviet Union was unable to tip the present balance of power in the Middle East in its favour.

It was to prevent just such a change in the balance of affairs that was one of the functions of German economic aid. In any case, it was dangerous in such circumstances for the Bundesrepublik to run the risk that the Arab countries would react to the establishment of diplomatic relations between Federal Germany and Israel by recognising the Pankow regime (East Germany).

**Appeasement recommended:** The paper went on to recommend a policy of appeasement for West Germany, as one of the western powers, making the establishment of diplomatic relations between it and Israel dependent for an unspecified time on the emotions of Arab ultra-nationalists in Cairo.



## BOOKS

### THE ARAB REFUGEES—AN ISRAELI VERSION

THE ARAB REFUGEES: ARAB STATEMENTS—AND THE FACTS; 48 pp., no index; published by the Israel Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Information Dept.; no price.

Monitors of Cairo radio have told me that Erskine Childers' article in the *Spectator* on the Arab refugee problem has been broadcast by Cairo some thirty times. It has become a kind of holy bible for the Arab propagandists. By comparison, the Israelis have been rather slow off the mark. This booklet is clearly aimed at correcting some of the Childers version of the origins of the refugee problem.

It is well laid out, easy to consult and it makes some telling points, especially in the first sections. There is a quotation from the Secretary General of the Arab League, broadcast by the B.B.C. on May 15, 1948—the day the war started. In this, according to the B.B.C., Azzam Pasha said "this will be a war of extermination and a momentous massacre, which will be spoken of like the Mongolian massacres and the Crusades." Azzam was of course referring to the massacre of the Jews, not the Arabs.

Then there are some useful reminders of contemporary expressions of opinion by Arab leaders. One of the most effective by Jamal Husseini, who was the spokesman of the Palestinian Arabs at the Security Council, and Acting Chairman of the Palestine Arab Higher Committee in April 1948. He told the Security Council, two days after the fall of Haifa and while the Arab exodus was at its height, that "the Arabs did not want to submit to a truce... They rather preferred to abandon their homes, their belongings and everything they possessed in the world... We have never concealed the fact that we began the fighting." This comes from the Security Council Record of the 287th meeting on April 23, 1948. I must confess, though, it is a pity that the full quotation, without ellipsis, was not given. A later quotation from the Jordanian daily *Ad-Diffa* sums up this Arab policy as follows: "The Arab Governments told us: 'Get out so that we can get in—so we got out but they did not get in'."

The booklet also contains the relevant U.N. resolutions and a miscellaneous collection of brief comments and extracts from books and newspaper articles. But what is the net effect of all this on an uncommitted reader?

In the first place it is confusing. Except for the brief summary at the end, it is difficult sometimes to see what a particular quotation is trying to prove. In the second place, the quotations are too brief and indirect to constitute convincing evidence. And there are some items included which had been better left out—in particular the *Economist* quotation which tells only one half of the story in the *Economist* article. This sort of thing is certainly bound to have a boomerang effect.

Surely, the Israel Government can produce something more to the point than this muddled collection. Most of the key people concerned in the Arab exodus from Haifa are still alive and most of them still live in Israel. This applies to some important Arab as well as Jewish leaders. Why not let them tell their story (as an affidavit) of what happened, together with the still extant supporting documents? That would be worth a hundred times more than the snippets from newspapers and speeches which no responsible person can use without first referring to the original for the context from which they have been taken.

The time has come to take the facts of the Arab exodus away from the propagandists. Let the world know what happened, and let it know the whole truth. It would appreciate Israel's confidence and it would understand her position. Odd as it may seem to the professionals, truth is sometimes the best propaganda.

Jon Kimche

### IMPROVING THE HEBREW LAWS

THE LAW OF ISRAEL, by Henry E. Baker; 132 pp.; (*Sweet and Maxwell*) no price.

Judge Baker, who was the first Acting Attorney General of the State of Israel and has taught law there since 1934, has written an excellent guide to the legal system of Israel—comprehensive, succinct and lucid.

It starts with constitutional laws and then deals with the main sources of the civil, criminal, commercial and land law. Sources are dual—the law of Palestine obtaining in May 1948, which itself was a compound of Ottoman, French and English Law, and the legislation of the Israel Knesset.

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Finally, a novel provision, designed to improve the Hebrew form of the laws, empowers the Minister of Justice to publish a new Hebrew version of any Palestine law in force in Israel, embodying any changes resulting from the establishment of the State.

It will be a task of the Israel legislature, says Judge Baker, "to replace the heterogeneous body by a homogeneous body of Law, written in one language, Hebrew, and suited to the needs of a modern progressive State."

Norman Bentwich

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# ISRAELI ENTERPRISE

## A Jewish Observer Panorama

### WHY THE BUDGET WILL NOT BALANCE CABINET-MAKING DELAYS ECONOMIC INQUEST

from Yohanan Ramati

#### Jerusalem :

The Manufacturers' Association has bowed to the inevitable and given instructions to its members to pay the new cost-of-living allowance increment, explaining the change in its stand by saying that "there is no justification for discriminating against workers in the productive sectors when the Government and other public bodies have agreed to pay the increment to their employees." No *quid pro quo* of any kind has been extracted, and the cost inflation is again upon us with a vengeance.

Meanwhile, the Government has found itself once more in the unenviable situation of lacking the revenue necessary to balance its budget. The cost-of-living allowance is one of the reasons for this, but by no means the only one. Pay increases for a large number of officials and workers in public service have been pushed through during the hectic election period. And immigration is proceeding much faster in 1961 than in either 1960 or in 1959.

Finance Minister Eshkol is beginning to come under fire from all sorts of quarters, even some which had always been friendly to him before. His proposal to raise an additional budget of £150 million—mainly by means of a forced

loan, which constitutes virtually an addition to income tax, as well as unspecified indirect taxes—has come at a time when a coalition Government has to be formed under considerable difficulties of various kinds.

**Planning gone wrong?** There is virtually no hope that any party other than Mapai will give these proposals its support in the Knesset before the negotiations for a new Cabinet are terminated, so for the time being they have been put on the shelf. But they are likely to be taken off it at the first convenient opportunity.

However, it should not be thought that the criticism of Eshkol is confined to politicians from parties other than his own.

Many economists are beginning to find the constant submission of additional budgets in the middle of the financial year proof of inept economic planning, or else of insufficient determination when dealing with claims likely to upset the budgetary framework.

It should be noted that there is nothing anti-inflationary about higher wages, salaries or housing. On the contrary, it may even be argued that—to the extent that the direct taxation is progressive—such a policy tends to increase inflationary pressures since the higher income groups tend to save more than the lower and middle income groups who form the recipients of wage and salary increments. And in Israel direct taxation is highly progressive.

**Full employment:** Perhaps this was one of the things Eshkol had in mind when framing his forced loan proposals, for the incidence of the loan is relatively heaviest on the middle rather than the higher income groups.

The Finance Minister's main reason for these proposals is almost certainly fiscal, since reducing the rates in the middle income groups would cost considerable revenue.

At the same time, the Ministry of Finance is trying to avoid imposing indirect taxes which are reflected in the index.

This policy is based on the Government's reluctance to tackle the real

problem—namely how to break the automatic link between index and wages. This has now become even more irksome than before because the country is enjoying virtually full employment, with the result that dismissing inefficient personnel has become more difficult than ever, while not only the Histadrut but even unofficial organisations of a single pressure group possess much greater bargaining power.

**Bread subsidy up:** For the time being, far from increasing indirect taxes on items in general use, the bread subsidy is actually being raised by one agorah. But confining indirect taxation to items which do not affect the index is a game very nearly played out.

If Eshkol really wants to check inflation economists declare, he and his colleagues will have to act with much more determination in the matter of the cost of living allowance—and soon.

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**Thursday, September 7**  
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**Sat. 2nd September:** 9.15 The News. 9.25 Maccabiah. 9.44 News Headlines.

**Sun. 3rd September:** 9.15 The News. 9.25 Maccabiah. 9.30 Heritage: The Jews—A People or a Religion? 9.44 News Headlines.

**Mon. 4th September:** 9.15 The News. 9.25 Maccabiah. 9.44 News Headlines.

**Tues. 5th September:** 9.15 The News. 9.25 Commentary. 9.30 Maccabiah. 9.44 News Headlines.

**Wed. 6th September:** 9.15 The News. 9.25 Maccabiah. 9.44 News Headlines.

**Thurs. 7th September:** 9.15 The News. 9.25 Science in Israel: A Monthly Magazine Programme. 9.44 News Headlines.



FINANCE MINISTER ESHKOL  
Under fire from all sides



# JPA-JNF NEWS

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# ANGLO-JEWISH YOUTH CONQUERS A MOUNTAIN

By O. Efraim

Last week we reported in these columns the dedication of the road to the top of Mount Meron by representatives of the Younger J.N.F. Commissions during their August fact-finding tour of Israel.

This project has been publicised in Britain as the "Highway of Youth," and in the creation of the highway went the funds raised by Younger Commission groups throughout the country. Their target: £80,000.

Mount Meron is attracting finance for early development because of its strategic position on the map of Israel, its climate, its history and its prospects for the future.

**More rain:** Mount Meron originated with a geological upheaval in Galilee that left a far rougher and more mountainous landscape. At 3962 ft. above sea level, the summit is Israel's highest point. It is surrounded by deep valleys, such as the Jezreel Valley, and the climate in this area is much drier than that of the rest of Israel. The annual rainfall of 40in.-45in. is less than that of the Jerusalem Hills and the coastal plain. The area around the summit of Beersheba. This natural area has abundant vegetation. In fact, the slopes are covered with thick forest. The ancient forests.

**The Bible come alive :** In the ancient habitation has been the village of Meron in the form of prehistoric burial places. Indeed, it is believed that such villages were in existence long before Joshua's victories over the Canaanites, and it is known that the boundary between the tribes of Asher and Naphtali traversed the peak. Clay tablets, dating back to 732 B.C.E., bear descriptions of King Tiglath Pileser III's invasion of "Marum."

During the era of the Second Temple, Mount Meron's villages were noted for the quality of their oil. These villages were also of strategic importance in the 63-71 C.E. war against Rome.

After the destruction of the Second Temple, such Jewish sages as Rabbi Shimon Bar Yochai and Rabbi Yochanan settled there, and later magnificent synagogues were built. They constituted an alternative Kabbalist centre in Galilee to



*Representatives of Anglo-Jewish youth at dedication ceremony on Mount Meron.*

Safed.

**Later settlement:** History then passed of years century farms in flamation. adminis- Mehemet ge on the o Rabbi 15 other t to settle rthquake, rnak but the Turk- lage was taken over by a Druze community.

Mount Meron remained a favourable project in the eyes of Zionist pioneers and land-holdings adjoining the Bar

## BIRMINGHAM'S SALUTE

A very attractive publication has just been issued by the Birmingham J.P.A. committee as this community's "salute" to Israel.

Edited by J. Pedahzur, Midland area director, the brochure features articles by such personalities as Ambassador Arthur Lourie, Abba Eban and Dr. Yigal Yadin.

In addition, there are some informative features on the geography of Israel and the State's methods of absorbing new immigrants, apart from details of Birmingham's own contribution to the national appeal.

Yochai Yeshiva were later purchased. Settlement plans were delayed however, even with the concentrated efforts of the J.N.F. shortly before the establishment of the State. The United Nations partition scheme put Mount Meron outside the Israel border. But a manoeuvre on the part of the Israel Army, known as "Operation Hiram," settled the matter otherwise. Mount Meron was now clear for development.

New villages were soon born, but the upper part of the mountain remained derelict, mainly because of its inaccessibility.

Two years ago, the J.N.F. laid out plans for afforestation, settlement, and, of course, the building of the "Highway of Youth," as yet another link in the chain of reclaimed areas and settlement.

## SITUATIONS VACANT

**JEWISH NATIONAL FUND** offers excellent opportunity to a secretary with good shorthand and typing speeds. This post offers good salary, hours and conditions and excellent prospects of promotion. Write giving full particulars to the Director, Jewish National Fund, 65 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.

**CAPABLE PERSON** required to take charge of Jewish National Fund Tree Department. Applications should be in writing giving full particulars of age, typing proficiency and previous experience (knowledge of Hebrew would be an advantage). They should be marked "T.D." and addressed to the Director, Jewish National Fund, 65 Southampton Row, London, W.C.1.



# J P A - J N F N E W S

## BARMITZVAH FOREST

Since the inauguration at last year's annual J.N.F. conference of the special campaign to plant a forest in Israel as Anglo-Jewry's gift to the young State on the attainment of its Barmitzvah, there has been a very large response from individuals and groups throughout the country. A considerable number of contributions have come in from non-Jewish supporters too.

The intention is to plant 300,000 trees in the hills overlooking historic Betar in the Jerusalem Corridor, and at the time of going to press, the J.N.F. administrative committee reported being almost half way towards the declared target.

**The record:** Now in course of preparation is the Commemorative Volume containing the names of all those planting a minimum of 13 trees. This is to be the permanent written record of the effort and will be presented to Mr. Ben-Zvi, the President of Israel.

Symptomatic of the response to the appeal issued by J.N.F. president Rosser Chinn has been the subscription of 100 trees in the Forest by the Victoria Boys and Girls Club in Stamford Hill. This is the first time that a club affiliated to the Association of Jewish Youth has participated officially in such an effort, and the cheque was accepted on behalf of the J.N.F. recently by David Barkar, youth department emissary. Similar contributions have been coming in from young people in cities throughout Great Britain and Ireland.

## JANNER TRIBUTE

Similarly with the progress of the Barmitzvah Forest campaign, we learn of the measures now being undertaken by the Zionist Federation to plant the Janner Forest in Israel as a tribute to the organization's president.

Zionist Federation chairman Jacob Halevy has taken charge of this campaign personally, and is appealing to each individual member of the Federation to make this a meaningful tribute to a man whose service in Jewish and public life is unequalled.

Three thousand trees in the Janner Forest have been subscribed in Birmingham alone.

## DIMONA RISING

Students of Israel's economic progress, particularly in the field of new development areas, point with justice to Dimona in the Negev as an example of how a village, largely populated with new immigrants, can be planted in the desert and made to succeed.

Although five years old, Dimona continues to make news. Here, the policy of mingling old settlers with newcomers has been fully vindicated. Every month, new families arrive in Dimona, and they are soon integrated into the economy, working together harmoniously and living together in amity.

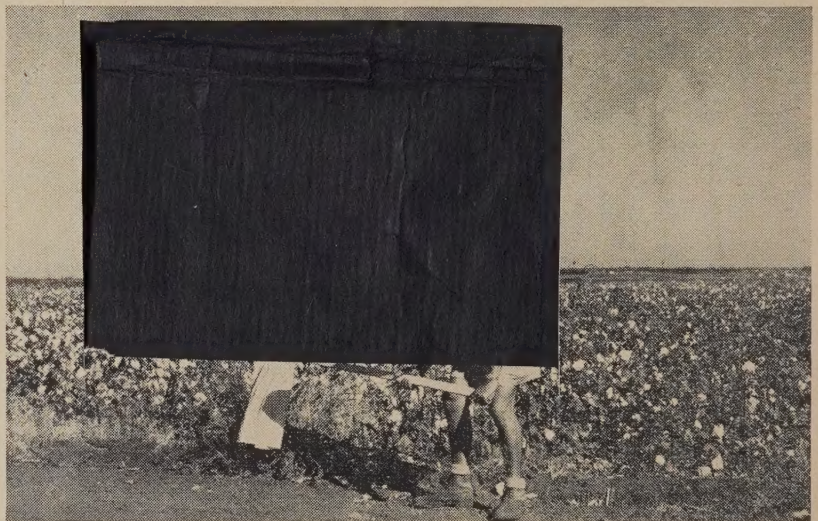
The village owes a great deal to the support it has received from the Jewish National Fund. A belt of 558 dunams, covered with trees, surrounds the village

and protects its industries and homes. Now another area of olive trees has been planted and these are already yielding fruit, proving the suitability of these trees to Negev conditions. In addition to the usual afforestation benefits the trees will provide raw materials for edible oils and fodder.

Dimona has entered into Israel's industrial field too, the vast Kitan textile plant being almost completed. The machines in the mills were, incidentally, endangered at one time by frequent Negev dust-storms, but now that the plant is protected by the windbreak avenues of trees, the risk of breakdowns has been reduced.

The J.N.F. plans to cover an area of 10,000 dunams between Dimona, Kfar Yeroham and Sde Boker with trees, thus extending the advantages of afforestation over a large section of the Negev.

## AIRCRAFT TO COTTON'S RESCUE



The cotton crop, one of Israel's newer agricultural undertakings, is presenting quite a problem to farmers due to its vulnerability to pests and insect life. Because the cotton fields cover vast areas from the northern Negev to the Huleh valley, it has been considered unpracticable to operate a surface-spraying system.

However, Israel's two major air-spraying companies, Chim Avir and Marom, have come to the rescue and now regular early morning trips are made to

all parts of the country, timed so that the sun will not destroy the efficacy of the insecticide once laid.

The operators have their base at Herzlia, where full instructions as to the conditions of the assigned area are given to the pilot. Topographical briefing is most important, for the planes have to be manoeuvred at near-ground level.

This air-spraying process is also operated on orchards and grain fields to arrest the deadly flight of agriculture's greatest enemy—the locust.



# JPA - JNF NEWS

## SAMMY DAVIS JNR.: A SELL-OUT

A Gala Performance given by Sammy Davis Jr. at the Prince of Wales Theatre last week for the Cavendish Group proved that functions can be arranged during the holiday season with considerable success.

The Cavendish Group, a Younger J.N.F. Commission comprising only seven engaged or married couples, has been working steadily through the summer months, and as a result can now contribute approximately £1,400 towards the Younger Commissions' target.

Prominent in the organisation of this function were the efforts of chairman Anthony Fine and functions chairman Joe Lewis.

The Commission is now planning their next function, a dance at the Kingfishers Pool on September 20.

## LIVERPOOL

The list submitted to us of officers elected on to the Liverpool J.N.F. Functions committee, and published some weeks ago, has been reported as incorrect and should be disregarded. The correct list is as follows:

Chairman, B. Rosenblatt; joint vice-chairmen, S. Davies, E. Goldsmith; joint vice-presidents, S. I. Applebaum, E. L. Fagin, M. Glassman, I. Karp, M. Marx, S. Rosenblatt, B. Solomons, A. Gould; joint treasurers, N. Shieldhouse, S. Ison; joint secretaries, L. H. Harris, D. Broudie; chairman Sportsmen's Committee, M. Compton; business manager, K. Abrahams; editor of "Shalom," E. Fagin; master of ceremony, A. Myerson; week-end organisers, A. Rubin, S. I. Applebaum; publicity manager, S. J. Dowson; catering manager, J. Myers; and executive members, H. Berman, A. Furman, L. Broude.

## THIS WEEK'S BEST BOXES

### PROVINCES

**STOKE-ON-TRENT:** Miss Solomons and Miss Hira, 11 The Fieldway, Trentham, £22.0. Mrs. Copeland, 30 Tontine Street, Hanley, £22.0. Mr. J. Sumberg, Rosefield, Sutherland Drive, Hanley, £22.0. Mr. J. Grossman, 37 Avenue Road, £22.0. Mr. Dofsky, Hanley, £22.0. Mr. R. Davis, 41 Greenway, Trentham, £20.0. Mr. Benny Davis, Sylvan House, Erris, £20.0. Mr. Basford, £20.0.

**LEEDS:** All at 4 Belgrave Drive, £6.10.0. Mr. and Mrs. Jeff Levy, 235 Boulevard, £3.13.0. Mrs. Wolfe, 357 Bricknell Avenue, £3.3.0. Mr. H. Marcus, 303 Beverley Road, £2.12.0.

**LEEDS:** Mr. J. Cameron, 230 Dewsbury Road, 2, £42.0.0. Mr. and Mrs. Cravitz and Son, 5 Abbotsford Place, 7, £5.10.0. Mr. and Mrs. A. Hollander, 49 Newton Lodge Drive, 7, £3.6.0. Mr. J. Fineberg, 29 Devonshire Avenue, 5, £3.9.0. Mrs. Rebecca Cole, 81 Otley Road, 6, £3.4.2. Mr. H. C. Rubin, 547 Ring Road, 17, £3.3.0. Mr. and Mrs. C. Simon, 576 Harrogate Road, 17, £3.1.0. Mr. Wassner, 92 Winding Way, 17, £2.17.6. Mr. J. Rivlin, 14 Nursery Lane, 17, £2.17.0. Dr. L. J. Richmond, 368 Alwoodley Lane, 17, £2.12.9. Mrs. S. Burns, 11 Whinbrooke Gardens, 17, £2.12.6. Mr. S. Gillinson, 241 Alwoodley Lane, 17, £2.12.6.

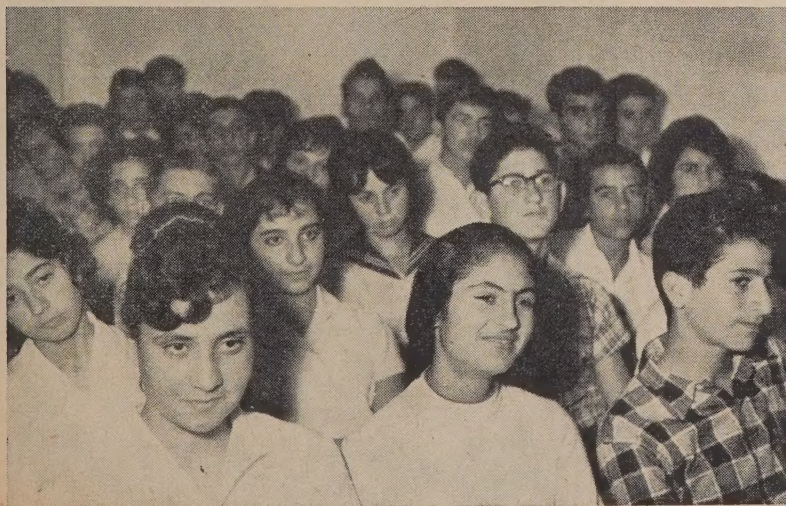
All at £2.12.0: Mr. J. Aber, 26 Harehills Avenue, 8. Mr. J. Adelman, 35 Moorland Drive, 17. Mr. D. Balsham, 11 Whinbrooke Gardens, 17. Mr. M. Balsham, 7 Sandhill Oval, 17. Mr. L. Berwin, 449 Harrogate Road, 17. Mr. S. Bott, 30 Sandmoor Drive, 17. Mrs. E. Barnett, 396 Harrogate Road, 17. Mr. A. Bailey, 43 Portland Crescent, 2. Mr. C. Beckwith, 29 Park Place, 1. Mr. A. E. Burnett, 76 Alwoodley Lane, 17. Mr. A. Belford, 26 The Fairway, 17. Mrs. A. Brook, 349 Street Lane, 17. Mr. A. Conway, 82 The Fairway, 17. Mr. S. B. Caplan, 6 Wigton Grove, 17. Mr. M. Cohen, 134 Easterley Road, 8. Mr. J. Crawford, 621 Stonegate Road, 17. Mr. H. Ehrlich, 36 St. Pauls Street, 1. Mr. P. Ehrlich, 36 St. Pauls Street, 1. Mr. A. Flowers, 5 Leeds Terrace, 7. Mr. and Mrs. Fern, 10 Henconner Grove, 17. Mr. B. Flowers, 29 Gledhow Valley Road, 8. Mrs. G. Fox, 7 Broomhill Avenue, 17. Mrs. S. Frazer, 254 Alwoodley Lane, 17. Mr. S. Featherman, 9 Park Lane, 1. Mr. E. Freedman, 1 Sandhill Grove, 17. Rev. H. Goldwater, 38 Easterley Avenue, 8. Mr. S. L. Graham, 29 Sandhill Drive, 17. Mr. A. Goodman, 12 Sandhill Oval, 17. Mrs. Gerstein, 9 Sandhill Crescent, 17. Mrs. A. Goldstone, 998 Scott Hall Road, 17. Mr. S. Gordon, 15 Sandhill Oval, 17. Mr. R. Goldberg, 3 North Lane, 8. Mr. I. Gordon, 120 North Street, 1. Mr. S. Harrison, Whittingham House, Otley Road, Bramhope. Mr. M. Hill, 97 North Street, 1. Mr. H. Hyams, 107 Alwoodley Lane, 17. Mr. M. Hanen, 6 Britannia Street, 1. Mr. W. Hanen, 6 Britannia Street, 1. Mr. S. Israeli, 996 Scott Hall Road, 17. Mr. C. Jacobson, 2 Southlands Crescent, 17. Mr. S. Kessler, 701 Scott Hall Road, 17. Mr. H. Katz, 32 Bentcliffe Drive, 17. Mr. E. Kohut, 36 Sandhill Oval, 17. Mr. L. Lipman, 25 Sandhill Oval, 17. Mrs. E. Land, 25 Bond Street, 1. Dr. V. Lewis, 4 Southfield Avenue, 17. Mr. H. Lieberman, 25 Kingswood Avenue, 8. Mr. J. Lester, 7 Park Square, 1. Mr. L. Lytton, 129 Chapeltown Road, 7. Mr. M. Lyons, 22 Moorland Drive, 17. Mr. A. Lyons, 35 Carr Manor Road, 17. Mr. S. Lewis, 241 Stanbeck Road, 7. Mr. H. S. Landey, 3 Ellers Close, 8. Mrs. M. Masser, 4 Wigton Grove, 17. Mr. P. Myers, 69 The Drive, 17. Mr. S. March, 6 Primley Park Avenue, 17. Mrs. Mastle, 52 Avenue Hill, 8. Mr. S. Miller, 16 Hamilton Avenue, 7. Mr. S. Morris, 186 Alwoodley Lane, 17. Mr. M. Moss, 50 Talbot Avenue, 8. Dr. C. Morris, 27 Sandhill Lane, 17. Mr. R. Mercado, 10 York Place, 2. Mr. L. Michaelson, Mayo House, North Lane, 8. Mr. R. Myers, 853 Scott Hall Road, 17. Mr. E. Padwell, 35 Norton Road, 7. Mr. L. Phillips, 8 Elmest Grove, 8. Mr. L. Porton, 63 High Ash Avenue, 17. Mr. J. Perry, 27 Moorland Drive, 17. Mr. C. P. Plainer, 25 Sandhill Drive, 17. Mr. M. Rosenhead, 17 Bentcliffe Avenue, 17. Mr. A. Rakusen, 12 Park Square, 1. Mr. S. Rosenbaum, 10 Hodgson Crescent, 17. Mr. J. Rosenberg, 23 King Lane, 17. Mr. H. Rapaport, 132 King Lane, 17. Mr. A. Rivlin, 211a Harrogate Road, 17. Mr. E. M. Rowlands, 7 Sandmoor Avenue, 17. Mrs. B. Rogall, 171 Alwoodley Lane, 17. Mr. D. Rosenthal, 2 Primley Park Lane, 17. Mr. M. Rivlin, 642 Scott Hall Road, 17. Mr. H. M. Rose, 2 The Willows, 17. Mr. H. Reiss, 126 Wetherby Road, 8. Dr. H. Sharp, 210 Street Lane, 17. Mr. J. Sunroy, 573 Street Lane, 17. Mr. S. Silverman, 215 Street Lane, 17. Mr. A. Schneider, 7 Westcombe Avenue, 17. Mr. C. Smith, 757 Scott Hall Road, 17. Mr. S. Stankler, 7 Southlands Crescent, 17. Mr. P. Spector, 34 Grafton Street, 7. Mr. P. Sinclair, 685 Scott Hall Road, 17. Mr. J. Silver, 223 Chapeltown Road, 7. Mr. L. Stross, 276 Alwoodley Lane, 17. Mr. E. Silman, 444 Street Lane, 17. Mr. B. Sevilla, Emmerdale, West Avenue, 8.

## BOARDING SCHOOL FOR HIGH I.Q. IMMIGRANTS

Immigrant youngsters of above average capabilities now have the opportunity of attending a new boarding-school in Jerusalem.

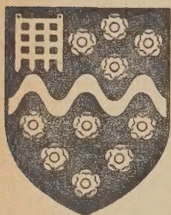
The school, which gives free education to 60 boys and 20 girls, selected from all over the country, is temporarily situated at Ein Kerem. Permanent location is intended at Kiryat Yovel, and if expansion

plans are fulfilled, it will be a major boarding-school with 300 non-paying pupils, the classes to be supplemented by children from the immediate locality. Speciality education is the school's objective, each syllabus being planned to suit the individual pupil. Picture shows a group of the high I.Q. children at Ein Kerem.





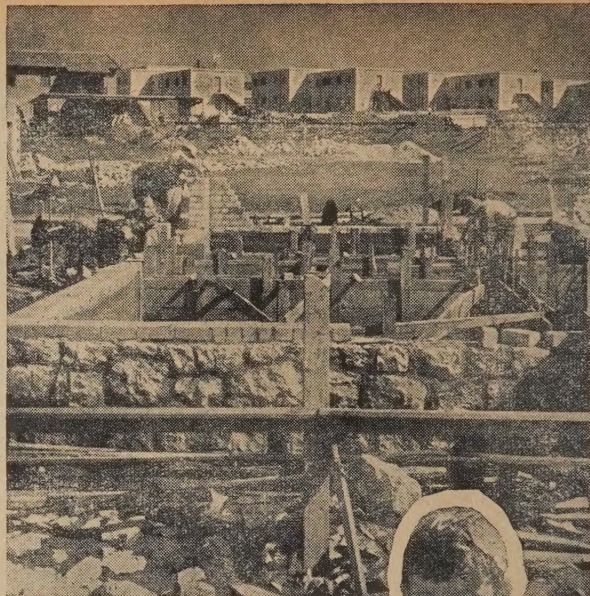
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